

Appl. No. 10/026,494

Amdt. Dated January 14, 2004

Reply to Office Action of December 5, 2003

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A tool for hot-forming copper and copper alloys, comprising a tool body formed to receive in the solid state copper or a copper alloy ~~in the solid state~~ and, the tool body comprising a tungsten/heavy metal alloy consisting essentially of 80 to 89.9% by weight of tungsten, 2 to 7% by weight of chromium, and a remainder of a binder metal.

Claim 2 (original). The tool according to claim 1, wherein said binder metal in said tungsten/heavy metal alloy is at least one binder selected from the group consisting of nickel and iron.

Claim 3 (original). The tool according to claim 1, wherein said tungsten/heavy metal alloy consists of 82 to 85% by weight of tungsten, 4 to 6% by weight of chromium, and 9 to 14% by weight of said binder metal selected from the group consisting of nickel and iron.

• Appl. No. 10/026,494

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Claim 4 (original). The tool according to claim 1, wherein said tungsten/heavy metal alloy is configured to form an extrusion die.

Claim 5 (original). The tool according to claim 1, wherein said tungsten/heavy metal alloy is configured to form an extrusion mandrel.

Claim 6 (currently amended). In a method of hot-forming copper and copper alloys, the improvement which comprises providing in the solid state one of the copper and copper alloys ~~in a solid state~~ and subjecting in the solid state the copper or copper alloy ~~in the solid state~~ to a tungsten/heavy metal alloy consisting of 80 to 89.9% by weight of tungsten, 2 to 7% by weight of chromium, and a remainder of a binder metal.

Claim 7 (previously presented). The method according to claim 6, which comprises subjecting the copper or copper alloy in the solid state to a die consisting of 82 to 85% by weight of tungsten, 4 to 6% by weight of chromium, and 9 to 14% by weight of said binder metal selected from the group consisting of nickel and iron.

Appl. No. 10/026,494

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Claim 8 (currently amended). In a tungsten alloy configured for hot-forming in a solid state copper and copper alloys ~~in a solid state~~, the improvement which comprises an alloy formed of 80 to 89.9% by weight of tungsten, 2 to 7% by weight of chromium, and a remainder of a binder metal material, bound to form a tool for receiving copper or a copper alloy in the solid state and hot-forming in the solid state copper and copper alloys ~~in the solid state~~.